

evil thereof." But sufficient unto the evil is the daily supply of grace and strength, while faith, growing stronger in the daily proof of grace, triumphs over all the sad conditions of our earthly estate, so that as we journey day by day we feel more and more sensibly the leading of our Father's hand. And as the years multiply and the exuberant hopefulness of youth gives place to the apprehensive temperament and weakening strength of age, how precious become those promises of the Father's daily care for us. "Cast all your care upon him who careth for you." Memory confirms our faith, for thru all the years hath he led us and helped us. "I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee." "And even to old age and even to hoar hairs will I carry you; even I will carry and deliver you."

### Decline of the Church

Speaking of the decline of the church, Bishop Walden said that it was not manifest where the gospel comes newly to souls in darkness, but where the gospel had long been preached, yet seemed to have lost its power. While we do not admit the statement that the church is declining, yet we have heard of a gospel hardened people, and it really seems that the longer a community has the gospel, the less interest it manifests in religion. Why is this thus? We will offer an explanation and invite others to do the same. When the heathen mind comes into a comprehension of Christianity, its ideals are formed upon the Bible alone, evolving therefrom the noblest inspiration and enthusiasm. On the other hand the ideals of an old Christian community are formed, not upon the Bible, but upon the lives of the church members in that community. These world exemplars of Christianity, living far below the Bible conception, dishonor their Christian profession, and discourage the confidence of the people. If that doesn't produce the effect complained of, it is sufficient to produce it.

### Our Most Dangerous Enemy

One of our most frequent and fatal misjudgments is that the most dangerous foe of the human soul is that one which visits us from abroad or makes his personal attacks upon us from without, forgetting that the worst troubler of the world is a wilful, stubborn heart. In our own personality we carry about with us the most dangerous of all enemies. An evil temper, which you bear about with you in your own bosom, some favorite sin secretly lurking in your soul, these are far more to be feared than all the afflictions and misfortunes and losses that may befall us in the ordaining of Providence. The evil that will in the end do us most harm is not that which attacks us from without, but that which has its root and nourishment in the bad soil of our own hearts. *Self*, the demon that goes not out but by prayer and fasting, is the most deadly foe of the human race. Not the fruit which Eve ate brought death into the world and all our sorrow and woe, but the selfish will, the lust, the appetite which went out from her heart and brought it to her lips. That fruit grows in every child's bosom, the germs of it are there and with favorable environments they will come forth in the most luxuriant and malignant growths. O that we could get rid of self, crucify him, then would the world be free

from the attacks of its worst enemy. To this end came Jesus, that he might destroy the works of the devil of which self is chief.

### Your Mission

If you want to succeed in life, find out what you are fit for, and do that one thing. Make it your specialty. And do not be offended if it turn out to be a humble employment. Many a young man wastes his powers and his time trying to strain up to his ideas of dignity in the selection of his calling. He wants to do some great thing before he has learned to do small things. He is not willing to begin at the bottom. A false pride keeps him back from the occupation for which nature intended him. If better things are in store for you, you will come to them by and by. A man will almost always sooner or later gravitate to his niche in this busy world. And moreover he will usually arrive just in the nick of time, — just as he achieves the necessary fitness for his larger task. Industry, thoroughness, patience, perseverance, these qualities will carry you forward and carry you upward just about as fast as it is safe and wise for you to go. While you are young, develop your faculties to the utmost possible keenness. As you grow older develop your opportunities, and before you are an old man you will find yourself in a position to give sage advice to the younger generation following you.

### Vacation Days

During the months of July and August many people suspend their regular taskwork, leave home and spend the time in what they call "vacation." How much good comes out of these vacation days we can not say, but pastors, Sunday-school superintendents and other Christian workers should remember that Satan and his agents never suspend operations. They are busy in season and out of season; for them there are no hot months and no cold months. So far as work is concerned all days are alike to them. But if, to preserve your health and keep you strong for the Lord's work, it is necessary that you take a vacation, remember that in doing so, you need not cease worshiping God or doing service for him. Vacation days have their special opportunities as well as other seasons of the year. Whether at the sea shore or on the mountains, life goes on and God means that it shall be filled with good and holy living. Wherever we are and whatever our work may be, we are to continue to be Christians, growing better, helping some one who needs help, spreading the gospel, living sweetly, beautifully, cheerfully, prayerfully, unselfishly, honoring God and doing something that will make this world a little better, bring it nearer to God, and hasten the day of the Lord's coming.

### Changed His Mind

An unbeliever out west who had advocated the sublime doctrine of "Don't know" in matters of religion and futurity, and who had also collected an Ingersol library, changed his mind when he came to die, directing among other things that after he had passed away his agnostic library should be publicly burned. Preparations were made to carry out this